

Testimony in SUPPORT of:

Bill # **1017**: An Act Concerning Election Administration

Bill # **6578**: An Act Concerning Participation in Electoral Process

March 9, 2021

Dear GAE Committee Co-Chairs Sen. Flexer and Rep. Fox, Vice Chairs Sen. Haskell and Rep. Thomas, and Ranking Members Sen. Sampson and Rep. Mastrofrancesco and Members of the GAE Committee,

Please make voting easy, convenient and accessible for ALL CT voters by voting **YES** in **SUPPORT** of bill number **1017: An Act Concerning Election Administration** to make the absentee ballot drop boxes permanent and enable voters to request absentee ballots via an online application and in **SUPPORT** of bill number **6578: An Act Concerning Participation in Electoral Process** for automatic voter registration at state agencies and to restore voting rights to parolees.

In support of bill number 1017: Last year my husband and I voted with absentee ballots and dropped them in the ballot drop box by our town hall. It couldn't have been easier and more convenient. Plus, we had all the confidence in the world that our votes would be counted on time, thanks to the hard work and efforts by our Town Clerk and her staff. As far as enabling voters to request absentee ballots via an online application, why not? This seems like a no brainer.

In support of bill number 6578: My husband and I believe voting is the cornerstone of our democracy and should be made as easy and convenient as possible. And we believe in second chances. Voting rights should be restored to parolees.

Thank you for your consideration of these crucial bills.

Sincerely,

*Paula and Mitchell Sakofs
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